

September Edition
NMS Monthly

Our First Edition of the 2019-2020
School Year!



Monthly Editorial

Welcome back Wildcat Nation! I hope you enjoyed your summer, I know I did! Welcome new 6th graders, I can speak on behalf of everyone here at the Northwestern Monthly when I offer you a warm welcome. We are so excited to be writing again for you. I hope you take these words of advice into consideration, this year is a new year, the days ahead and behind were, are, and will be rough, but keep pushing. Only the weak will fall behind, only the strong and determined will finish the race strongly and with power. Be happy, persevere, and live life to the best of your ability.

Back to School Information

Welcome back! Our first meeting will be Thursday, September 5th and every Thursday after we will meet in Mrs. Biesadecki's room 625 after school from 4:05 to 5:00! If you are interested in joining, come for a visit! This semester we will be producing a series on the Student Council so be sure to sign up for a subscription in your 1st Period Class or on the Northwestern Monthly Website! If you subscribe, we will email you a copy and maybe even deliver one to you! Get more information at nmsnewspaper.weebly.com or email us at northwesternnewspaper@gmail.com

The Student Council Series

Did you ever wonder why you are electing student council members?

What is their money is spent on?

What do they do?

Find out in our new series, The Inner Workings of Student Council!

[If you are running for a Student Council Office advertise here!](#)

10 Questions with Mr. Peterson!

Mr. Peterson is the new principal of Northwestern Middle School. He was an assistant principal at Cambridge and Hopewell before his job here at Northwestern. Here, we met him for an all exclusive interview.



When did you know you were going to be our new principal?

This is actually my first job as a principal. Last year, I was an assistant principal at Cambridge High School. I knew that I would be here on July 8th and it was announced on July 9th.

What inspired you to reform the phone and earbud policy?

I got a lot of feedback from parents and administration, but the overwhelming theme is that cellphones are a distraction. Sometimes they can be good, but on school grounds, they are a disturbance. I didn't want to take them away completely, but the goal is that they should be away in class while we are engaged in academic activities. The idea behind the policy during lunch and recess is that you should be having face to face connections with other students.

What are some hobbies you like to do outside of education?

Some of my interests include golf and college football (I went to Texas A*M). I love spending time with my family and reading as much as I can. Right now I am reading a book called "The Way of the Seal".

This is on everyone's mind, what was your inspiration for "Peterson out"?

I started doing that with the morning announcements at Hopewell. There isn't really an inspiration but I rather like to have fun with my job and I thought that was a cool way to end the morning messages. The three years I was at Hopewell, people seemed to really

like it. Now, it's practically tradition. Then, I did it at Cambridge. This past year's senior t-shirt actually had my picture on the back and says "Peterson out". Sometimes I'll walk through the halls and hear someone say, "Is that 'Peterson out?'" like it's actually my name.

So what is a message you would like to send to the students here and other places you've taught?

I want you guys to know that your voice and your ideas are important. Ultimately, you are the people at Northwestern for three years and you should have an input on what that experience will be for you. There are some things we aren't going to change like the bell schedule. But for things like recess and 2nd period, that should have your input. Just come in and talk to me, I want to hear your voice. To achieve this goal of student and principal communication, This month we will start doing "Pizza with Peterson". You can come, have lunch with me, and tell me about the first month of school, your input on what you want to change, or anything else you'd like to talk to me about.

Do you have any pets, if not what animal is your favorite?

I currently don't have any pets, but I've had dogs before. As far as pets go cats are ok, but I'm definitely a dog person, especially Labs. If I had a favorite animal, I would say bears but I also like eagles.

What do you think students want to improve about the school?

I don't know at the moment. I really haven't heard from any students yet but I really want to know. It's really not my school, it's yours.

What do you think Student Council's role in the school is?

I think the Student Council should represent the student body and add things outside the normal school day of which you be a part. The student council also plays a big part in the 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade Dances, they organize and raise money for it. If you want to see something improved, the Student Council is your voice for that.

You've already worked on student policies, how do you plan to raise student morale?

I can't make students like all my policies, but if they want to hear the "why" behind them, they can talk with me. We can sit and talk through it, all policies are amenable.

Do you know what aesthetic is?

A growing trend in modern society, aesthetic is a philosophy that guides visual arts of all forms, from painting to photography to sketching and filmography. Aesthetic is everywhere.

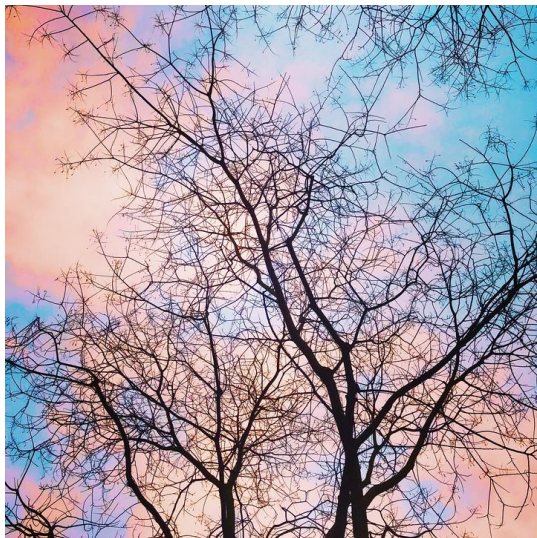
aes·thet·ic

/esˈθɛdɪk/

adjective

1. concerned with beauty or the appreciation of beauty.
"The pictures give great aesthetic pleasure"

Aesthetics are what give a painting, sketch, or a picture a deeper perspective. If you want to look at some aesthetic photos look below. They make the mood of the photo a very specific tone.



If you want to vote on the October Newspaper aesthetic cover click [here](#).

The following article is an opinionated piece on the ban of backpacks. The author believes strongly against the backpack ban and thus submitted this article. If you would like to give feedback or submit an article of your own, please email us at northwesternnewspaper@gmail.com

Backpack Ban

20 August 2019

A Rebuttal of the Backpack ban

As all of the students at NMS know good and well, middle school is a rough time. One major everyday hassle is getting from class to class. It can get hard traveling through the crowded halls, dropping something every time someone takes a breath or being late to every class having to stop at lockers to get binders, composition books, calculators, colored pencils, or whatever else is needed for the next class. It would be so much easier if there were backpacks.

One reason backpacks may be beneficial to the student body is the muscle strain and back pain that arise from many of the alternatives students use in place of backpacks, such as shoulder and handheld bags. In a study conducted by Josette Bettany-Saltikov of Teesside University, she states "The shoulder and handheld bags produce postural deviations in all planes which may cause adverse stress and strain on spinal structures and ultimately lead to pain and progressive postural scoliosis."(Bettany-Saltikov, [researchgate.com](https://www.researchgate.com)) Accentuated by the fact that all

varieties of scoliosis are more likely to happen in adolescence due to rapid growth spurts, this should be at least of moderate concern to the staff of NMS.

Another concern regarding the banning of backpacks is safety concerns and fire hazards. In the research done for this essay, no source was found citing backpacks as a fire hazard; however, it was repeatedly stated that overstuffed backpacks could cause back pain. Many students don't overstuff their backpacks, so that shouldn't be a valid reason to ban backpacks. As for being a hazard, several instances of teachers stumbling over backpack straps were reported, but nearly all teachers reported that they didn't think that it was a major safety concern. Such an example is Elaine Lent, who said referring to tripping over a backpack "It just knocked the wind out of me, it really did. I would not consider it a major injury." (Hanley, TheNew York Times) In fact, many stated that they thought assorted books, binders, and smaller bags were more of a safety hazard.

Furthermore, with the newer and stricter attendance system in place, tardies are becoming harder and harder to avoid when students to go to their lockers, fill up a water bottle, and go to the end of an opposite hall in the allotted 3-minute timeframe. Bathroom breaks are even more impossible to do in the amount of time given. If the ban isn't lifted, at least give students more time to get their stuff and go to class. Additionally, with so many loose calculators and pencil cases, important items get dropped all the time. Since Surface bags weren't issued this year either, Surfaces may soon join the falling supplies. Some use string bags to carry their things; however, many of the bags used by students tend to break, sometimes with

a surface or other fragile device inside. This can often result in a cracked screen, which results in a fine on the students for an event out of their control. Most backpacks nowadays have laptop and tablet sleeves built-in protecting the Surface from harm.

Some have stated that the growing nationwide trend of backpack bans is in itself a restriction on the freedom of expression, as outlined in the 1st amendment, as well as article 19 of the UNICCPR. One such pupil to challenge this rule 23 years ago was Elyse Meredith, who said: "I believe it's a constitutional right when it does not materially and substantially interfere with the educational process."(Mukherjee, APNews) She did lose the case, but that was 23 years ago, and times have changed.

So in conclusion, backpacks are better for spinal health compared to alternatives, the hazards associated with backpacks are overblown, and the convenience of backpack usage outweighs any other cons with them. So spread the word and let it be heard, down with the backpack ban

[Works Cited](#)

Read the following article and vote on the backpack ban. [Click here to vote.](#)

The following article supports the backpack ban.

Our first reason for the approval of the backpack ban is simple yet evident. *We have lockers.* All one essentially needs to bring from class to class is a pencil case, a binder, a few notebooks and possibly textbooks for the days classes. In between classes ,there are set times in which students can go to their lockers and trade out necessary and unnecessary school supplies. So here is my question: *Why is there a need to carry a bulky backpack around?*

Another reason the backpack ban is necessary is because dire emergencies like fires and tornadoes are not uncommon. Backpacks could easily block or trip people in a rush to get out of a school. According to Nathanael Ashton-Piper of the *Knight Errant Newspaper* States " Fire hazard is anything that blocks a passageway in the event of a fire, so technically backpacks are a fire hazard" (*Students Shouldn't Have Backpacks Out During School, Paragraph 5*) This shows that backpacks are a contributor to fire hazards, a type of dire emergency.

finally, we should have the backpack ban because of the unfortunately realistic possibility of students smuggling things like pepper spray into such a dense and public area that is school. Backpacks can hold things such as obvious things such as pencil pouches, lunches, surfaces, and water bottles. However, other things may go unseen like arms, or drugs. These can go looked over because they could be tucked away in a backpack for the day and could only be seen at home.

A History of the 9/11 Attacks: United Airlines Flight 93

On September 11, 2001, four planes were hijacked with the intent to destroy multiple symbolic buildings and kill many civilians. It truly was a tragic day and one that has changed our lives and the lives of all American civilians forever. It was an event that shook the nation.

Though, the terrorists didn't completely succeed in their plan, mainly in the United Airlines flight 93. The initial target of the plane is unknown, but places that were thought to be targeted were the White House, Camp David, or nuclear power plants on the coast. The United Airlines Flight 93 crashed into a field in Pennsylvania while the crew and passengers heroically managed to regain control of the plane. The passengers and flight attendants risked their own lives to protect the country and save thousands. Three of these brave heroes were Thomas Burnett Jr., Todd Beamer, and Sandy Bradshaw.

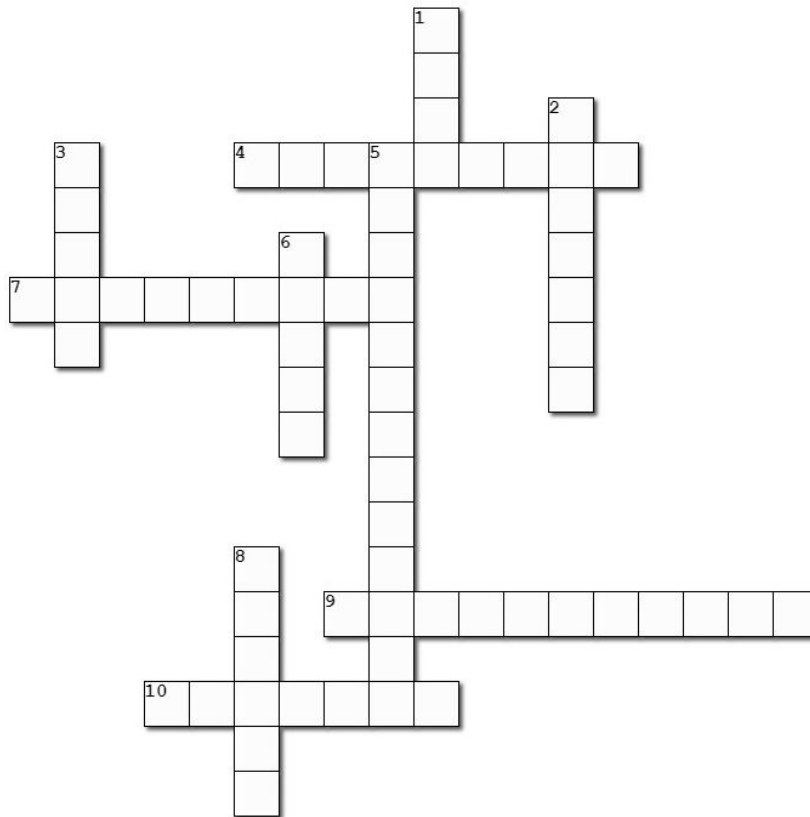
United Airlines Flight 93 was hijacked 40 minutes after leaving Newark International Airport in New Jersey. Because the plane was delayed, the passengers on the ground learned about the events of New York and Washington by cell phone calls to the ground. When the hijackers told everyone the plane was returning to the airport, the passengers knew this was a lie. Before boarding the flight, Thomas Burnett Jr. told his wife over the phone that " I know we're all going to die. There are three of us that are going to do something about it. I love you honey,"(A History of the 9/11 Attacks). Todd Beamer was heard saying "... Let's Roll,"(A History of the 9/11 Attacks). Sandy Bradshaw was last heard talking to her husband while filling pitchers with boiling water. The flight attendants last words were, "Everyone's running to first class. I've got to go. Bye,"(A History of the 9/11 Attacks). The passengers fought the 4 hijackers and fought for control over the plane. The plane flipped over and sped toward the ground at 500 miles per hour, and crashed into an empty Pennsylvania field at 10:03 a.m and gave their lives. These 3 heroes along with the other heroes may have not been police officers or firefighters, but they will always be remembered in our hearts.

While 9/11 may have been a tragic day, and it was, it was a day that told us it was time for a change. Airport security has improved along with building structures, and people now know how to be prepared for these attacks. Like President George W. Bush said, "Terrorist attacks can shake the foundations of our biggest buildings, but they cannot touch the foundation of America. These acts shatter steel, but they cannot dent the steel of American resolve."

Check out this [poll](#) on fall drinks!

NMS Pride

Complete the crossword puzzle below



Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Across

4. A vacation away from school during the school day.
7. Violins, Violas, and ext...
9. The reward you get from being good and doing well
10. You do this everyday in Study Skills

Down

1. The music program with brass and more
2. Our school mascot
3. Ready, Responsible, and, Respectful
5. Oh my god you guys its the show we did last year.
6. You need this to do well on tests, BRING ON THE BOOKS
8. Ms. Grant runs this. Remember to raise your soft pallet.



KIDS

ADULTS

KIDS

ADULTS



GET PUMPED!

This year's musical will be **Shrek JR!**

Featuring:

John DeVoe as Shrek,

Sophia Rocco as Princess Fiona,

Jaden Michel as Donkey,

And

Bryan Gowin as Lord Farquaad

Put on a Happy Face!

Editors' tips to keep this school year interesting!

- **All ways have something fun to look forward too!** For instance; on Thursdays, you can look forward to Friday! You might want to join a club after school to look forward to or plan an activity, this way you will never say "ugh it's Monday again"!
- **Collaborate with friends!** This could mean you and all your friends agree to dress funny on Wednesday or draw together at lunch!
- **Do your homework!** I know this sounds lame, but if you finish your homework first when you get home you will be able to fully enjoy whatever you do after!
- **Enjoy your classes!** Don't go into class with the mindset that it won't be fun! I admit sometimes it might be boring, but other days you may be able to work with your friends or make a project!
- **Eat a healthy diet!** Eating a full breakfast and lunch will give you enough energy to power through the day! For instance, instead of cereal or no

breakfast at all, have some oatmeal or eggs with
bacon.

Many Thanks to:

Mr. Peterson-Principal

Mrs. Biesiadecki-Sponsor

Madalynn H-Co-Editor^{and Founder}

Luke N-Co-Editor

Grant M

Emma K

Ridge T

Nada B

Bella G

Emmy P

Hannah B

Lily K

Aryan S

Vivian C

Emmet M

Valeria S

Georgia D

Addison M

Inaya S

Hunter D

Caroline N

Ian V

Maeva

Sarah N

Isabella F

Alex O

Kirthana G

Hayden P